

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 05559 091301Z

51

ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ADP-00 L-03 /014 W

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P 091210Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5311

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 5559

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: CPRS LA (KIRKLAND, GEORGE CARROLL)

SUBJECT: AMERICAN PROPERTY - CASE OF GEORGE CARROLL KIRKLAND

REF: A. VTE 5389; B. STATE 152867

1. APPRECIATE RAPID AND HELPFUL RESPONSE REF B. EMBASSY HAS NOT YET TAKEN POSSESSION OF EFFECTS (AS SUGGESTED PARA 1, REF B), FOR REASONS NOTED BELOW AND MISSION GUARD IS STILL GUARDING PREMISES.

2. WE UNDERSTAND FROM CHIEF OF POLICE THAT MRS. KIRKLAND IS LIKELY TO BE RELEASED ON BAIL IN NEAR FUTURE. SHE WILL THEN BE FREE TO RETURN

TO HOUSE AND MAKE USE OF SUCH OBJECTS AS STILL REMAIN THERE.

3. CONTRARY TO ADVICE WE HAD EARLIER RECEIVED FROM CHIEF OF POLICE (PARA 2, REF A), CHIEF PROSECUTOR FROM MINISTRY OF JUSTICE (WHO IS FINAL AUTHORITY) HAS INFORMED US THAT EMBASSY WOULD NEED HIS PERMISSION TO PERFORM INVENTORY AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, THAT MRS. KIRKLAND IS, UNDER LAO LAW, ENTITLED TO ALL PROPERTY WHETHER OR NOT SHE IS CONVICTED.

4. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE THINK WE SHOULD DISENGAGE UNLESS DEPARTMENT ADVISES OTHERWISE. THIS WOULD INCLUDE REMOVING MISSION GUARD FROM KIRKLAND HOME. AIR AMERICA WILL HOLD THE LETTER MENTIONED PARA 4, REF B AND WILL COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH SON, RODNEY MANIS. KIRKLAND'S BODY STILL BEING HELD BY AIR AMERICA IN UDORN UNTIL FAMILY DECIDES FINALLY ON ITS DISPOSITION.

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DEAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: golinofr
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